

Commercial equivalents for chemicals

COMPOUND	FORMULA	COMMERCIAL EQUIVALENT	SOURCE
acetic acid	CH_3COOH	vinegar (5%)	grocery store
acetone	CH_3COCH_3	acetone	hardware store
acetylsalicylic acid	$\text{C}_9\text{H}_8\text{O}_4$	aspirin	drug store
aluminum	Al	foil or wire	grocery or hardware store
aluminum potassium sulfate	$\text{KAl}(\text{SO}_4)_2$	alum	drug store
aluminum sulfate	$\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$	flocculating powder	pool supply store
ammonium carbonate	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$	smelling salt	drug store
ammonium chloride	NH_4Cl	sal ammoniac	drug store
ammonium hydroxide	NH_3 (aq)	ammonia cleaner (10%)	grocery store
ammonium nitrate	NH_4NO_3	nitrate of ammonia	garden supply store
amylose	$(\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_5)_n$	cornstarch	grocery store
ascorbic acid	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_8\text{O}_6$	vitamin C	drug store
boric acid	H_3BO_3	boric acid eyewash	drug store
		solid roach killer	hardware store
butane	C_4H_{10}	disposable lighter	grocery store
		fluid	
caffeine	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_4\text{O}_2$	No-Doz ^a tablets	drug store
calcium carbonate	CaCO_3	white chalk,calcium supplement	drug store
calcium chloride	CaCl_2	"De-Ice" for sidewalks	grocery store
calcium hydroxide	$\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$	slaked lime, some antacids	hardware store
			pool supply store
calcium oxide	CaO	Quicklime ^a	hardware store
calcium phosphate, monobasic	$\text{Ca}(\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4)_2$	superphosphate	garden supply store
calcium sulfate	CaSO_4	plaster of paris	hobby shop
		gypsum	building supply store

COMPOUND	FORMULA	COMMERCIAL EQUIVALENT	SOURCE
carbon	C	charcoal, graphite	hardware store
carbon dioxide-solid	CO ₂	dry ice	dairies, grocery store
carbonic acid	H ₂ CO ₃	soda water	grocery store
citric acid	C ₆ H ₈ O ₇	sour salt	grocery store
copper	Cu	sheet, pipe or wire	hardware store
copper sulfate, pentahydrate	CuSO ₄ · 5H ₂ O	Bluestone ^a algacide Root Eater ^a	hardware or lawn & garden center
DMSO	(CH ₃) ₂ SO	solvent	drug stores
95% ethanol	C ₂ H ₅ OH	Everclear ^a	liquor store
ethanol/ethyl alcohol	CH ₃ CH ₂ OH	denatured alcohol	hardware or paint shop
ethylene glycol	CH ₂ OHCH ₂ OH	antifreeze	auto supply store
fructose	C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₆	fruit sugar	grocery store
glucose	C ₆ H ₁₂ O ₆	dextrose	drug store
glycerol	C ₃ H ₈ O ₃	glycerin	drug store
helium	He	helium	party shops
hydrochloric acid	HCl (aq)	muriatic acid masonry cleaner	hardware store or lawn & garden store
hydrogen peroxide	H ₂ O ₂	3% antiseptic peroxide Clairoxide (12%)	drug stores beauty supply store
indicators		beet juice, red cabbage juice, cherry juice	grocery store
iodine	I ₂	iodine	drugstore
iron	Fe	uncoated nails, filings steel wool	hardware store
iron (III) chloride	FeCl ₃	none	drug store
lactic acid	C ₃ H ₆ O ₃	milk acid	grocery store
lead	Pb	fishing line sinker	sporting supply store
magnesium hydroxide	Mg(OH) ₂	milk of magnesia	drug store
2-propanol	CH ₃ CH(OH)CH ₃	rubbing alcohol	drug store

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magnesium sulfate, heptahydrate	MgSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	Epsom salts	drug store
methanol	CH ₃ OH	methyl alcohol,	paint store
		duplicator fluid,	office supply store
		gasoline ÒdryerÓ	auto supply store
methylene blue	C ₁₆ H ₁₈ CN ₃ S	methidote antiseptic	veterinarian
		biological stain	tropical fish store
naphthalene	C ₁₀ H ₈	moth balls	hardware store
nujol		mineral oil, baby oil	drug store
oil	Hydrocarbon (formula varies)	vegetable oil	grocery store
oxalic acid	C ₂ H ₂ O ₄	rust remover	drug store
		radiator cleaner	hardware store
para-dichlorobenzene	C ₆ H ₄ Cl ₂	moth flakes	hardware store
paraffin		paraffin wax, candles	grocery store
phenol red	C ₁₉ H ₁₉ SO ₅	swimming pool indicator	swimming pool supply
phosphoric acid	H ₃ PO ₄	pH Down (30% solution)	tropical fish store
potassium aluminum sulfate	KAl(SO ₄) ₂ ·12H ₂ O	potassium alum	photo supply store
potassium bitartrate, potassium hydrogen tartrate	KHC ₄ H ₄ O ₆	cream of tartar	grocery store
potassium bromide	KBr	potassium bromide	photo store
potassium carbonate	K ₂ CO ₃	potash	agricultural supply store
potassium chloride	KCl	lite salt	grocery store
potassium dichromate	K ₂ Cr ₂ O ₇	none	photo supply store
potassium hydroxide	KOH	caustic potash	hardware or ceramic shop
potassium nitrate	KNO ₃	saltpeter	drug store
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potassium permanganate	KMnO_4	"Clearwater" (53% soln.)	tropical fish store
sodium bicarbonate, sodium hydrogen carbonate	NaHCO_3	baking soda	grocery store
sodium carbonate	Na_2CO_3	washing soda	grocery store
sodium chloride	NaCl	plain table salt -uniodized	grocery store
sodium hydroxide	NaOH	drain opener (LYE)	hardware store or farm supply store
sodium hypochlorite	NaClO	bleach (5% Sol'n)	grocery store
sodium nitrate	NaNO_3	Chile saltpeter	garden supply store
sodium phosphate	Na_3PO_4	trisodium phosphate (TSP)	paint or garden shop
sodium silicate	Na_2SiO_3	water glass	hardware store
sodium tetraborate decahydrate	$\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	borax	grocery store
sodium thiosulfate	$\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$	hypo	photo store
stearic acid	$\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{35}\text{CO}_2\text{H}$	candle hardener	hobby shop
sucrose	$\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_{11}$	table sugar	grocery store
sulfur	S	sulfur	lawn & garden shops
tin or copper	Sn, Cu	metal sheets	hardware store builders supply store
vermiculite		gardening soil	lawn & garden center
zinc	Zn	galvanized nails	hardware store